

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9618

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY PREOTIRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1693

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: OAU SUMMIT III--JULY 4

REFS: LIBREVILLE 1677 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: JULY 4 SUMMIT SESSION REFERRED CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE AND HORN TO AD HOC COMMITTEES AFTER CONTENDING PARTIES HAD ENGAGED IN BITTER VERBAL EXCHANGES (SEPTELS). MODERATES WON FURTHER VICTORY BY DEFEATING ALGERIAN VERSION OF NON-INTERVENTION RESOLUTION ON OPEN VOTE. KAUNDA SPOKE ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES ON BEHALF OF FRONT LINE STATES (SEPTEL), WHILE SPEECHES BY HEADS OF STATE FROM CONGO, TOGO AND UGANDA CONTRIBUTED LITTLE TO PROCEEDINGS. END SUMMARY.

1. JULY 4 MORNING SESSION OPENED WITH SPEECHES BY PRESIDENTS OF TOGO AND CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE. EYADEMA DELIVERED MODERATE AND BALANCED SPEECH ON BROAD RANGE OF AFRICAN ISSUES, STRESSING NEED FOR CONTINENT TO OVERCOME ITS INTERNAL DIVISIONS AND PLACING EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL COOPERATION. TOGOLESE CHIEF OF STATE HAD KIND WORD FOR WESTERN EFFORTS TO SETTLE SOUTHER AFRICAN ISSUES, BUT ADDED THAT AFRICAN STATES MUST MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. SPEECH BY CONGOLESE PRESIDENT YHOMBI OPANGO WAS SHARPER IN TONE. HE SCORED OAU FOR NO LONGER BEING POSITIVE INSTRUMENT IN STURGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND FASCISM. BURNING ISSUES WERE BEING AVOIDED, HE SAID, IN NAME OF PRESERVING PRETENDED UNITY, AND IT WAS BECOMING DANGEROUS TO RAISEN THEM AT OAU.

ON SOUTHER AFRICAN ISSUES, YHOMBI ATTACKED AFRICAN STATES WHO MAINTAIN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, SUPPORTED PATRIOTIC FRONT, TOOK HARD LINE ON NAMIBIA, AND STATED AFRICA COULD REDEEM ITSELF ONLY THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION.

3. AT THIS POINT, WITH 12 SPEAKERS STILL INSCRIBED, SENEGALESE PRESIDENT SENGHOR SUCCESSFULLY MOVED THAT FURTHER SPEECHES BE CIRCULATED RATHER THAN DELIVERED, EXCEPT FOR SOMALI AND SUDANESE REBUTTALS TO ETHIOPIAN CHARGES OF PREVIOUS DAY. KAUNDA ASKED FOR RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR FRONTLINE STATES, PROPOSAL WHICH WAS PROMPTLY ACCEPTED, AND CHAIRMAN COULD NOT STOP UGANDA'S AMIN FROM TAKING FLOOR BEFORE SUMMIT BROKE FOR LUNCH. (KAUNDA SPEECH BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.)

4. SPEECH BY AMIN NOTABLE LARGELY FOR LACK OF RELEVANCE TO PROCEEDINGS. APART FROM GENERAL APPEALS FOR SUPPORT OF AOU AND CLAIM THAT SOME PROGRESS MADE IN SORTING OUT DIFFERENCES WITHIN EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, SPEECH CONSISTED OF ATTACKS ON WESTERN PRESS AND VAGUE ALLEGATIONS ABOUT BRITISH PLOTS AGAINST AMIN HIMSELF AND OTHER RADICAL CHIEFS OF STATE. (AMIN'S PLOT CHARGES AND ATTACKS ON WESTERN PRESS WERE DELETED FROM LATER OAU PRESS HANDOUT.)

5. TONE OF PROCEEDING BEGAN TO HEAT UP BEFORE LUNCH  
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WITH SOMALI REBUTTAL TO ETHIOPIAN CHARGES, BUT TEMPERATURE ROSE SHARPLY IN AFTERNOON SESSION WITH SUDANESE PRESENTATION AND WITH CHADIAN ATTACK ON LIBYA. AFTER HEARING CHARGES AND COUNTER-CHARGES, SUMMIT REFERRED BOTH ISSUES TO AD HOC COMMITTEES. (DETAILS ON THESE ISSUES BEING REPORTED SEPTELS).

6. TURNING BRIEFLY TO LESS CONTROVERSIAL QUESTIONS, SUMMIT THEN APPROVED RESOLUTIONS OF 11TH EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL (KINSHASA) ON REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND ALL RESOLUTIONS OF 28TH REGULAR MINISTERIAL (LOME) WITH EXCEPTION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT RECOGNITION ISSUE (EXPECTED TO BE ADDRESSED BY SUMMIT JULY 5).

7. NEXT ITEM ON AGENDA WAS PROPOSED SENEGALESE/ALGERIAN RESOLUTION ON NON-INTERVENTION AND COMPLAINTS WITH OAU CHARTER AND RESOLUTIONS. (COMMENT: NOT CLEAR WHETHER AD HOC COMMITTEE CREATED BY CM AS REPORTED LIBREVILLE 1668 HAD YET MADE ITS RECOMMENDATIONS). SENGHOR PROPOSED THAT DRAFT RESOLUTION BE SPLIT INTO SEPARATE SEGMENTS, AND SENEGALESE ELEMENT OF JOINT DRAFT-- DEALING ONLY WITH INTERVENTION IN AFRICA BY NON AFRICAN STATES--

WAS THEN ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENTS BY GHANA, ALGERIAN, SUDAN, LIBYA, AND GUINEA. ALGERIA THEN INTRODUCED SECOND ELEMENT OF ORIGINAL JOINT RESOLUTION AS SEPARATE PROPOSAL DEALING WITH INTRA-AFRICAN INTERVENTION, BUT WAS ABLE GATHER ONLY 18 VOTES (VERSUS SIX OPPOSED AND 25 EITHER ABSENT OR ABSTAINING). AS RESOLUTION FELL SHORT OF SIMPLE MAJORITY, IT FAILED OF ADOPTION.

8. COMMENT: SUMMIT ACTION ON SENEGAL/ALGERIAN RESOLUTION WAS FURTHER CLEAR VICTORY FOR MODERATES. AS IN CASE OF ALGERIAN AMENDMENTS TO MERCENARY CONVENTION DURING EARLIER MINISTERIAL MEETING (LIBREVILLE 1966), JULY 4 VOTE INDICATES RADICALS CAN COUNT ON ONLY 17-19 VOTES AT SUMMIT FROM AMONG 49 MEMBER STATES WHENEVER  
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